

MINUTES

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
CITY OF BRANSON, MISSOURI
May 24, 2011**

INTRODUCTORY

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Branson, Missouri met in regular session in the Council Chambers of the City Hall on May 24, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Presley called the meeting to order with the "Pledge of Allegiance" and Garrett Anderson gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Deputy City Clerk Bargman called roll: Mayor Presley presiding, Bob Simmons, Rick Davis, Cris Bohinc, Rick Todd, Patrick Parnell and Mike Booth present.

Also present from the City were: City Administrator Dean Kruithof, City Attorney William Duston, Deputy City Clerk Hillary Bargman, Communications Director Jerry Adams, Information Technology Director D.J. Cline, Public Works Director and City Engineer David Miller, Parks and Recreation Director Cindy Shook, Utilities Director Mike Ray, Economic Development Director Garrett Anderson, Planning and Development Director Jim Lawson, Police Chief Carol McCullough, Assistant Finance Director Jamie Rouch and Interim Fire Chief Ted Martin.

CITIZEN'S ACADEMY GRADUATION CEREMONY

Mayor Presley and Jerry Adams presented Certificates of Achievement to the participants of the Citizen's Academy and thanked them for their participation. (See Attached)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Presley began the Public Comments section of the Board of Aldermen meeting by stating the Board would hear citizens that signed the Speaker's Sheet in the order they are listed on the sheet.

Kathy Mills, 3000 Green Mountain Drive, Branson, Missouri, expressed concerns regarding the airport and commented under the Pay for Performance Agreement the City of Branson could be paying the Airport for residents flying back to the Branson Airport instead of tourists and inquired how the airport distinguishes between residents and tourists. Ms. Mills stated as a taxpayer, she would like for the City to not pay the airport until there is more information regarding how the airport accounts for the number of tourists who fly in and how much money is used to support tourism. Ms. Mills stated the Transit District Development group had to be established in order to pay a county entity since they couldn't take city dollars directly as it was a private business. She explained she has researched and is unsure if there might be people receiving income from the airport or are employed by the airport who have a conflict of interest and said she would like to have more information about this. Ms. Mills stated she was informed by a significant airport official the money

paid by the City is being used to pay interest on bonds and she commented since it is a private airport, it is unknown who holds the bonds and how much interest is being paid. She expressed concern that if they are just paying interest, it cannot ensure the airport will not close if it is unable to pay its bills and \$2 million will have been spent on the airport per year. Ms. Mills inquired if the City's obligation to the airport will decrease if it becomes financially profitable, or if the cost will remain the same infinitely. She commented as a taxpayer, there is a lot of information she still has been unable to find out through her research and requested more time and due diligence before the City pays the airport as it is a lot of money and feels there are a lot of other things the City needs. She stated she is a proponent of supporting theaters as it is one of the main reasons people come to Branson and commented there are numerous convention centers and airports elsewhere. Ms. Mills stated she is appreciative of the airport and convention center, but feels there are a lot of other uses for tax dollars.

Mark Weisz, 386 Dalton Drive, Branson, Missouri, stated he is in favor of the budget amendment to fund the Branson Airport's Pay for Performance Agreement bill. Mr. Weisz commented he is thankful for the airport bringing tourists to Branson and for the City's contribution toward the airport's success. He stated he supports full payment of the airport bill and commented his wife flew to Denver from the airport last week and the plane was full and she didn't know anyone on the plane and believes it is because they were all tourists flying home from vacationing in Branson.

Jerry Emory, 236 Shepherd of the Hills Expressway, Branson, Missouri, stated he was speaking on behalf of the Branson Lakes Area Lodging Association and they wanted to thank the Board, Mayor and City Administrator for protecting the City and cooperating with the Branson Airport to benefit all parties. Mr. Emory commented the association is grateful the City has put forth effort formulating the budget and taking a conservative approach to keep the fiduciary responsibility for the city. Mr. Emory stated the association believes the airport is a large factor in improving the economic development of the Branson Lakes Area and strongly encourages both parties to work together to create an agreement workable for all concerned and avoid negative publicity and litigation. Mr. Emory stated the association is not in favor of the City compromising any services or using reserve funds to contribute to the airport.

Steve Critchfield, 500 West Main Street, Branson, Missouri, commented he appreciates the City's due diligence efforts on the airport project and stated he does not want to make a personal attack on Mr. Mike Hynes, stating he understands Mr. Hynes is being used as a consultant by the City and inquired what Mr. Hynes' credentials were to make him an expert in managing, operating and building an airport. Mr. Critchfield mentioned he couldn't find anything through his research on Mr. Hynes' credentials that would make him an expert in this area and he urged the City to find someone who has experience building, operating and managing an airport to look at the Pay for Performance Agreement and offer feedback.

Jory Rolf, 171 Corbin Way, Branson, Missouri, stated he and his wife support the Branson Airport and he encouraged the Board to take the time to make decisions based on facts and commented it would be interesting to receive a statement from Southwest Airlines stating their position on the Pay for Performance Agreement. Mr. Rolf commented he read an article in a local newspaper regarding the recent alcohol compliance checks in the community and it stated out of 28 businesses checked, 21 businesses complied with the age restrictions and he inquired what the policy is regarding repeat offenders of serving alcohol to minors. Mr. Rolf stated he feels it would be a good idea to offer incentives for businesses who continuously comply with alcohol regulations. Mr. Rolf thanked Police Chief McCullough for his service to the community.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Presley asked if there were any citizens that had any items they wished to have removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion. Hearing none, Mayor Presley asked if any member of the Board had any items they wished to have removed from the Consent Agenda. Hearing none, Mayor Presley asked Deputy City Clerk Bargman to read the items on the Consent Agenda. Deputy City Clerk Bargman read the following Consent Agenda items by title.

Approval of the Board of Aldermen Minutes:

- a) May 10, 2011 Special Meeting
- b) May 10, 2011 Regular Meeting

Acknowledge Receipt of Minutes:

- a) Budget and Finance meeting of March 28, 2011
- b) Planning and Zoning and Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee joint meeting of October 6, 2010
- c) Planning and Zoning and Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee joint meeting of February 10, 2011

BILL NO. 3930

Ord. No. 2011-0051

Amending Chapter 2 and Chapter 90 of the Branson Municipal Code Utilities pertaining to sewer facilities agreements and holding tank waste for the City of Branson.

Final reading of Bill No. 3930, an ordinance amending Chapter 2 and Chapter 90 of the Branson Municipal Code Utilities pertaining to sewer facilities agreements and holding tank waste for the City of Branson was read by title by Deputy City Clerk Bargman. Voting aye: Simmons, Davis, Bohinc, Todd, Parnell and Booth. Nays: none. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 2011-0051 was duly enacted.

Mayor Presley opened the floor for a motion to approve all items on the Consent Agenda. Alderman Bohinc moved to approve, seconded by Alderman Todd. Voting aye: Simmons, Davis, Bohinc, Todd, Parnell and Booth. Nays: none. Motion carried.

REGULAR AGENDA

PRESENTATION OF QUARTERLY UPDATE FROM BILL DERBINS ON THE CONVENTION CENTER AS REQUIRED BY CONTRACT.

City Administrator Dean Kruithof provided the introduction and Bill Derbins and Bill Tirone made a presentation of quarterly update on the Convention Center as required by contract. Mayor Presley asked if anyone in the audience had questions or comments. Lee Thomas, 2315 Green Mountain Drive, Branson, Missouri, inquired about marketing e-mail procedures and asked if the Convention Center is focusing on anything different this year. Mr. Thomas inquired about any

additional banner advertising. Mayor Presley asked for comments or questions from the Board. Discussion.

BILL NO. 3931

Amending the adopted 2011 budget for the City of Branson, to adjust monies for the general fund.

First Reading of Bill No. 3931, an ordinance amending the adopted 2011 budget for the City of Branson, to adjust monies for the general fund and authorizing the Mayor to execute the same was read by title by Deputy City Clerk Bargman and a staff report was presented by Administrator Kruithof. Administrator Kruithof stated he wanted the record to reflect: "Our estimated fund balance for the budget in 2011 was roughly \$5.5 million. We have the exact amount, but our preliminary 2010 audit shows that our general fund balance for 2011 will increase by \$175,000. If we were to look at the revenues and expenditures being constant and pay Branson airport the \$327,000, we estimate that our ending fund balance as of December 31, 2011 would be \$4,237,735 which is \$57,000 less than the 30% reserve per our Board policy, but it is above our 20% reserve which is required by code. And again, that is very important to point out that the Board has set a policy of 30%, our code requires 20%, so we have tried to maintain above our requirement because of the turbulent fiscal conditions we are in. But we also have to look at some adjustments that may be taking place and this is ending as of April and this is a never-ending number. I'm going to go through this and just tell you some things that we know right now, but in addition to paying Branson Airport if we made that payment, the estimated fund balance would be \$3.9 Million or \$339,000 less than what's required of our 30%. In other words, we would end up at 27.6%. We would be looking at our court revenue has been decreasing and we are estimating that it would be \$88,000 for the year. Our campground, and unfortunately this number is going to be going up, we were looking at campground revenues decreasing by \$33,000; however, our campground is closed right now because the water came back up and we're probably going to be seeing that number increase. We do have a presentation to you that we'll be making at a later meeting, we have our campground agreements and we have our Skaggs agreement that we are proposing to you that would adjust their rent downward because they are basically trying to become a little more cost effective. We'll be talking about that later, we do owe Skaggs \$15,000 in the agreement for our city employees that was in our agreement with Skaggs, but had never been paid that we discovered for employee fitness center memberships and that's 2006 to 2011. And then the most important here is what we have for FEMA and the \$140,000 is a representation for our costs, because of the flood, we believe that we will be reimbursed anywhere between 75% and 80% of our costs. When we put these numbers together we were anticipating that the City's costs were going to be \$700,000 so we were estimating an 80% reimbursement: 75% FEMA and some money from the state we were estimating about 5%. Good news and bad news, the good news is that now that we've finalized our numbers what we are turning into FEMA at this point we believe that our cost for flood damage to the City, now this isn't private flood damage this is to the public entity, is going to be closer to \$400,000 not \$700,000. However, the bad news is that what we've been seeing in Joplin and other areas of the state, plus what is taking place here, we do anticipate that there probably will not be any type of state payment. I think the magnitude of the destruction of what's happening is probably going to tap the state's coffers. So we believe that it will be reimbursed for about 75%, which means that we will probably still have about a \$100,000 bill. So, the final thing I would like to talk about then on our City's financial projections is that when we put the budget together we had the issue of the Music City refunds, and I believe everybody is familiar with that, and we budgeted that we would have to see refunds of music city in the neighborhood of about \$600,000. But now we are getting information from the state that our final liability in 2011 for this is probably closer to \$400,000 which means that we have \$200,000 that will probably be available at the end of the year. We don't know yet because we are trying to work with the state and their revenues, but if that happens and we are able to release that unused liability that would put us back to about 29% in a reserve fund for the end of fiscal year. So to Mr. Emory who stepped up, these financial proposals are not talking about changing any of our proposals, not cutting any of our budgets or anything like that and we will still be right at about 29% is what our projection is. But again, I want to point out that these numbers are ever changing, we have a rainstorm coming our way and we certainly hope we don't get that much

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more rain to see additional flooding in our community. So this has been a volatile year when it comes to our revenue, but that is where we stand. Now, for the remainder of my report, I'm not going to go into it in detail, but I did put in a number of articles that had appeared in the Springfield Business Journal, the Springfield Newsleader, our local newspapers, our local television stations and they had quite a bit of information about forbearance agreements, whether or not what the fiscal condition of the airport is. We had a stakeholders meeting at the Branson Airport today and we had a pretty good discussion about that, about the fact that we in the City live in a fish bowl and everything that we deal with is public information and I feel that if you see an item about forbearance agreements and fiscal condition you ought to just put that information out there. It's not necessarily anything that is a bad thing, it's just people are asking questions about that and we should have that information there, and that's why I thought it would be good if we had that in the record. We also have a number of other issues, basically we were talking about Dr. Mike Hynes I had called Dr. Hynes to ask him for some information regarding the projections we were hearing from Branson airport and how we can compare that and Dr. Hynes said well I'd like to give you some additional information, I put that in. We are not paying Dr. Hynes and he is not our employee in any way, shape or form, he just provided that as information as an interested citizen as anybody else could on this issue. But there are a number of postings that we have from EMMA (Electronic Municipal Market Access) including the forbearance agreement, including the audited financials of Branson Airport, including the first 3 months of this year and feel it should be there for discussion and there for reference if we want to. Also, continually the Mayor and I receive comments and questions about the airport business model in relationship to working with other community entities and working with transportation. Some of their business models are exclusive agreements at the airport. We receive comments on that very frequently and thought it should be there for discussion, not necessarily that we are going to have an answer tonight, but for a general discussion for the community. In conclusion, the things that I wanted everyone to basically know is that the main concern that we have is the depletion of the general fund, and at the very end of this report I showed our most current information which shows that the general fund right now is trending \$104,000 less in 2011 than it did in 2010. Now, even though we are taking a look at the budget and we believe that we are going to end up at about 29%. If we make this payment, we can't continue to see the general fund decline because eventually that would mean that our most critical fund would become insolvent that we would not have reserves and we would not have funds for the most basic services for the City: police, fire, parks and recreation. But yet, the promise of the airport is that it will bring more people to the community, those people will spend additional monies, they will see additional economic development in our community to be able to start seeing those tax revenues go up. My hope is that the promise of the airport will start showing itself this year, but I also believe that our community needs to start having a discussion about this because the model that we have right now, even though Branson airport built their airport and relied on a return of about \$8.24 per passenger, the ability to provide it in the manner that we have right now is putting our general fund at risk. I was very heartened to see that a number of people in our community, a number of opinion leaders and the Chamber are starting to talk about yes, we need to start talking about this issue. It is a critical issue. Now, bringing that up is not a negative about the airport or the promise of the airport, and as I was indicating the idea that we could have Southwest Airlines or we could have additional tourism in our community that the bondholders for the airport are giving them some additional time to be able to prove their business model. It seems reasonable that we would make this payment at the very beginning of our high season to see how well Branson Airport can do. So in a nutshell, that is my long report and I wanted these items in the record. I know that they will be referred to in this discussion and future discussions and I am either ready for any questions or comments." Mayor Presley asked for a motion approving Bill No. 3931. Alderman Todd so moved, seconded by Alderman Bohinc. Mayor Presley asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. The speakers were as follows:

Jeff Bourk, 337 Parkside Drive, Hollister, Missouri, stated he was the Executive Director of the Branson Airport and aviation is his passion. He commented his education and experience in this field has allowed him to work for the last 16 years operating various airports around the country. Mr Bourk mentioned he and his wife owned and operated an FBO and his wife is a pilot and for the last 4 years they have been in Branson working to develop the Branson Airport. Mr. Bourk mentioned his first two years in Branson have been spent constructing the Branson Airport and trying to attract Board of Aldermen

airlines and the last two years have been spent operating and trying to build the business. He commented the Pay for Performance Agreement is important as many people desire for the airport to succeed and recognize how it will positively affect the community by bringing thousands of additional tourists to the area. Mr. Bourk mentioned the airport has brought great, low-cost service to the area and feels Branson Airport will become a true national air service destination, making it easier for people all around the world to visit Branson and he feels this will not be possible without good low-cost air service. Mr. Bourk commented there have been numerous positive developments at the Branson Airport since it opened in May 2009 and stated US TLT data reported Branson was one of Air Tran's most profitable arrivals last year as it performed well out of Atlanta. He mentioned since the air service began two years ago, the airport has steadily increased services from just one daily flight to currently, each week there are two flights to Atlanta, four flights to Chicago, four flights to Houston, one flight to Baltimore and one flight to Orlando. He pointed out it is important to note that Chicago and Houston are two of Southwest Airline's largest hubs. Mr. Bourk stated this is strong growth for being open just two years and a trend he feels will continue and mentioned another positive development in 2009 is the Branson Airport received an award for being one of the top 15 airports in the world for terminal services. He said this award relates to the airport's customer service, décor and services available and mentioned in 2010 the Branson Airport also received national recognition for the fastest growing airport in the United States in the 500,000 enplanements category and below. He stated the airport received this award while most airlines across the country were dramatically reducing seats and most airports saw major reductions in enplanements. Mr. Bourk commented Frontier entered the airport's market in 2010 and Branson has been one of their top performing routes based on a revenue per available seat mile. He commented the airport has worked with the CVB and TCED Board to implement a large co-op effort to run a destination marketing campaign which will help bring additional visitors to the market and stated they have also put together over \$680,000 to run a destination marketing campaign along with the CVBs in Midway and Houston. Mr. Bourk stated this will bring additional driving and flying visitors to Branson and the Airport is proud to be a part of it. He also mentioned last week the airport was ranked one of the top 10 most stress-free airports in the United States and said the airport is proud of this award as everyone worked hard to obtain it and feels customer services is a top priority at the airport. He commented the recent purchase of Air Tran by Southwest Airlines will have a very positive impact on the community and the Branson Airport supports the City paying money to honor the Pay for Performance Agreement and working with the City in the future.

Bob Huels, 500 West Main Street, Branson, Missouri, stated Mr. Hynes' qualifications should not be of any concern to the Board and neither should the Branson Airport's business model as the Airport's success or failure is not mentioned in the contract. Mr. Huels stated the Pay for Performance Agreement merely states when the airport delivers a passenger to Branson they are to be paid \$8.24 per passenger. Mr. Huels commented he would like to see the City make it a priority to honor the agreement and pay the Branson Airport.

Jesse Fosnaugh, 326 Southview Drive, Branson, Missouri, stated he is representing the employees and tenant employees of the Branson Airport and commented he understands the airport is required to pay interest payments on bonds and said if the City does not pay the money to the Branson Airport as per the Pay for Performance Agreement, the airport will be forced to reduce spending in other areas to compensate for non-payment by the City. Mr. Fosnaugh mentioned this would impact approximately 200 employees who work at the airport. He stated he gathered from Administrator Kruithof's report there is more support from the City to pay the money to the airport to honor the Pay for Performance Agreement and mentioned the employees of the Branson Airport support this and thanked the City for the recommendation made by Administrator Kruithof.

Rick Huffman, 420 Sunny Brook Drive, Branson, Missouri, asked if the Branson Airport model will work long-term in regard to bond payments and commented from personal experience as a bond holder, he has had to vote to reduce the amount received on bonds and work out an agreement. Mr. Huffman stated he is in favor of the Airport and asked if in the future there would be a way to amend the Pay for Performance Agreement again to allow other funds like tourism tax dollars to provide funds to honor the Pay for Performance Agreement. Mr. Huffman commented he noticed the City's attorney fees for litigation are a significant amount and hopes these will not

continue in the future. He said he understands money is tight right now and urged the City to only spend money out of necessity and use money to support tourism as it is the City's livelihood.

Kathy Mills, 3000 Green Mountain Drive, Branson, Missouri, stated as revenues decreased for the Hilton, they found simple ways to cut costs and she encouraged the City to do the same. She expressed concern for only having 29% in the reserve fund and stated in the event that revenues continue to decrease she doesn't want to see services like fire and police sacrificed. She encouraged the City to review billing and find ways to save money since revenues are down. Ms. Mills encouraged the Board to use caution and review the billing from the Airport.

Jeff Bourk, 337 Parkside Drive, Hollister, Missouri, commented the Branson Airport estimates 135,000 enplanements for 2011 and stated this estimate is based on current flight schedules and seats in the market. Mr. Bourk mentioned this estimate is a little higher than what is in the forbearance agreement and emphasized that any statements he makes regarding the bonds are solely his opinion and should not be used as an official statement on behalf of the airport's board. He commented the airport has publicly-traded bonds and to his understanding, it's permissible to miss the 127,000 enplanements by 20% as mentioned in the document, but if they are able to attain this number, the agreement will be extended by another year. Mr. Bourk stated he feels there will not be a problem obtaining this number. Mr. Bourk commented he believes the airport has approximately \$8 Million in debt service reserve and stated as long as there is money in the reserve and money coming from the City, those funds will be used toward debt service payments. He stated he believes it will be up to the bond holders whether or not they will take the funds from reserves, but he assumes they would. Mr. Bourk mentioned the forbearance agreement does not forgive the payments, but forbears the payments to a future date and he believes debt service reserves that remain would be used toward future payments as long as there are reserves available. Mr. Bourk stated any payments the City makes will go to the bond holders as specified in the agreement and commented payments will be made out of the debt service reserve, but not out of operating.

Mayor Presley asked for comments from the Board. Discussion. Voting aye: Bohinc, Todd, Parnell and Booth. Nays: Simmons and Davis. Motion carried.

Meeting recessed at 8:41 p.m. and reconvened at 8:49 p.m.

BILL NO. 3932

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Branson, Missouri, approving the Second Amendment to Petition for the establishment of the Branson Commerce Park Community Improvement District.

First Reading of Bill No. 3932, an ordinance of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Branson, Missouri, approving the Second Amendment to Petition for the establishment of the Branson Commerce Park Community Improvement District was read by title Deputy City Clerk Bargman and a staff report was presented by Administrator Kruithof. Mayor Presley asked for a motion approving Bill No. 3932. Alderman Davis so moved, seconded by Alderman Parnell. Mayor Presley asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Presley asked for comments from the Board. No discussion. Voting aye: Simmons, Davis, Bohinc, Todd, Parnell and Booth. Nays: none. Motion carried.

BILL NO. 3933

Approving a planned development amendment to PD 2006-006 for the properties located at 1984 S. Highway 165, Branson, Missouri.

First Reading of Bill No. 3933, an ordinance approving a planned development amendment to PD 2006-006 for the properties located at 1984 S. Highway 165, Branson, Missouri, was read by title by Deputy City Clerk Bargman. Mayor Presley asked for a motion approving Bill No. 3933. Alderman Bohinc so moved, seconded by Alderman Simmons. Mayor Presley asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Presley asked for comments from the Board. Discussion. Voting aye: Simmons, Davis, Bohinc, Todd, Parnell and Booth. Nays: none. Motion carried.

BILL NO. 3934

Approving a planned development and adopting Land Use Regulations PD-11-002 for Branson View Cabins at 1901 Shepherd of the Hills Expressway, Branson, Missouri.

First Reading of Bill No. 3934, an ordinance approving a planned development and adopting land use regulations PD-11-002 for Branson View Cabins at 1901 Shepherd of the Hills Expressway, Branson, Missouri, was read by title by Deputy City Clerk Bargman. Mayor Presley asked for a motion approving Bill No. 3934. Alderman Bohinc so moved, seconded by Alderman Todd. Mayor Presley asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. Ross Williams stated he was representing the developer of this project and commented they are anxious to get things started and mentioned they will not be using the same type of pervious pavement that was used in Springfield, but they will be using a paver block style for parking. Mr. Williams commented there will be a trail within the development that they are considering connecting with the city-wide trail system. He stated that they are looking at the option of utilizing underground tube structures to contain storm water drainage. Mayor Presley asked for comments from the Board. Discussion. Voting aye: Simmons, Davis, Bohinc, Todd, Parnell and Booth. Nays: none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO.

2011-R014

Approving the renewal of the Municipal Electric Service Agreement with Empire District Electric Company.

A Resolution approving the renewal of the Municipal Electric Service Agreement with Empire District Electric Company was read by title by Deputy City Clerk Bargman and a staff report was presented by Administrator Kruithof. Mayor Presley asked for a motion adopting the resolution. Alderman Booth moved to adopt, seconded by Alderman Parnell. Mayor Presley asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Presley asked for comments from the Board. Discussion. Mayor Presley called for the vote on the Resolution. Voting aye: Simmons, Davis, Bohinc, Todd, Parnell and Booth. Nays: none. Motion carried. Resolution No. 2011-R014 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO.

2011-R015

Approving a Preliminary Subdivision Plat for phase one of the Covered Bridge Resort located at 101 Covered Bridge Drive, Branson, Missouri.

A Resolution approving a Preliminary Subdivision Plat for phase one of the Covered Bridge Resort located at 101 Covered Bridge Drive, Branson, Missouri, was read by title by Deputy City Clerk Bargman and a staff report was presented by Jim Lawson. Mayor Presley asked for a motion adopting the resolution. Alderman Simmons moved to adopt, seconded by Alderman Davis. Mayor Presley asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Presley asked for comments from the Board. No discussion. Mayor Presley called for the

vote on the Resolution. Voting aye: Simmons, Davis, Bohinc, Todd, Parnell and Booth. Nays: none. Motion carried. Resolution No. 2011-R015 was adopted.

MAYOR/ALDERMEN/ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS

Alderman Bohinc stated she appreciates Police Chief McCullough and Loretta McCullough's service to the community. She thanked everyone from the community who volunteered in Joplin after the tornado devastation and thanked everyone who supported Plumb Nellie Days.

Alderman Parnell mentioned there is a need for pet supplies for animals affected by the storms in Joplin and stated the Shepherd of the Hills Humane Society in Branson is accepting donations for Joplin animal shelters and will deliver donated items to Joplin on Friday.

Alderman Booth commented the Branson Rotary Club is hosting their Flavor of The Ozarks event in which there will food samples from area restaurants, a golf tournament and a silent auction from which all proceeds will benefit two charities. Alderman Booth stated the event will be at Stonebridge and invited everyone to attend.

Administrator Simmons stated he appreciated the opportunity to attend a tour and presentation by Parks and Recreation Director Cindy Shook at the RecPlex. He said she provided a lot of information about the Branson Parks Department and was impressed with how many people they serve from surrounding areas. Alderman Simmons mentioned he was impressed that the RecPlex pool is ready to be open next week as the Parks Department acquired several extra projects due to the flooding. He encouraged everyone to visit the RecPlex and the City's parks and commented the City is very fortunate to have these facilities.

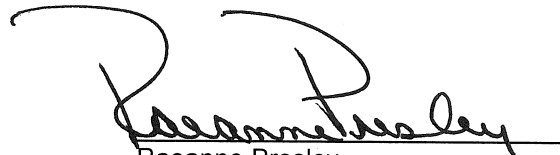
Administrator Kruithof stated currently Table Rock Dam is releasing 53,600 cubic feet per second and this amount of water will continue to be released throughout the evening unless there is more rain. He mentioned the dumpsters have been removed from the flooded areas as many of the homes previously affected by the flood are under water again. Administrator Kruithof said the flooding will probably affect Memorial Day at the City's RV park and mentioned RVs in the park were removed last night as Empire District Electric had to shut off the power to the park due to a shortage in work crews as they are helping in Joplin. Administrator Kruithof mentioned Jim Lawson has notified neighborhoods at risk of potential flooding. He commented Interim Fire Chief Ted Martin and a few staff members of the Fire Department spent 36 hours in Joplin assisting with rescue and recovery efforts. He stated Interim Fire Chief Martin took several pictures of the devastation in Joplin and asked him to provide an update on the effects of the tornado in Joplin. Ted Martin presented photos of some devastated areas in Joplin and stated he and a few staff members of the Fire Department went to Joplin with a team from Taney and Stone Counties. He said there was a lot of damage north of I-44 and the City of Branson provided as many resources as possible to Joplin without cutting into the City of Branson's staffing. Ted Martin commented Joplin's Fire Station No. 2 was destroyed, but all of the Fire Department staff was unharmed. Interim Fire Chief Martin said while his team was in Joplin they conducted door-to-door secondary searches, overnight searches of some hospitals and spent time going basement to basement. Ted Martin commented that for years Fire Departments have educated people on tornado safety and have always advised people to get to the lowest part and most interior room of a house during a tornado, but he said a lot of debris falls into the basement during a tornado. He stated this tornado has been re-classified to an F5 and added that while in Joplin his task force was assigned 2 rescue dogs to assist with rescue efforts. He stated he had the opportunity to observe Joplin's EOC operations and saw how it compares to Branson's. Interim Fire Chief Martin reported smoke alarms were going off everywhere in the debris in affected areas. He said they returned to Branson last night around 7:00 p.m. Aldermen Todd inquired what the current death toll was and how many people are still unaccounted for. Ted Martin commented he feels the number of deaths from the storm is likely to increase and stated KY3 News has a link on their website for how to help with

rescue and recovery efforts and added he feels social media is a great way to keep people informed. Ted Martin stated he saw a lot of animals in need of help and a lot of guns among the debris in Joplin. He complimented his team as he felt they did a great job with rescue efforts and commented food was provided from many sources and the Fire Department's main expense was fuel. Ted Martin reported many of Joplin's resources are being exhausted. Administrator Kruithof stated he was proud of the Fire Department team and he appreciates their efforts helping Joplin. He reminded everyone this evening is Carol McCullough's last Board meeting as Police Chief. Police Chief McCullough stated he and Loretta McCullough appreciated the retirement reception and all of the kind words.

Mayor Presley stated the local newspapers and town hall meetings have mentioned the flood buy-out program and feels the Board should consider if the City would want to participate. She stated 75% is paid for by the federal government and 25% could be provided from other sources such as the City or property owners. Mayor Presley added there are approximately 19 homes in Branson that have substantial damage from the flooding. Jim Lawson commented a few people are interested in the buy-out program, but many are not as it will take approximately 2 years which is a long period of time for many. Jim stated in 2008 after the flooding, many people believed the flood would be a one-time occurrence and some of the people feel the floods could be a reoccurrence and many are considering moving or building up. Mayor Presley commented the buy-out program doesn't apply to vacation homes or second homes and she asked the Board to review the materials regarding the buy-out program. Alderman Davis asked Jim Lawson what determines how high people can elevate their homes. Jim replied he is only allowed to require people to build at the base flood elevation (BFE) and stated many people have realized they should not live in a flood plain regardless of how high they are allowed to elevate their homes. Mayor Presley reminded everyone there are three weeks until the next Board meeting and mentioned tomorrow is the Public Works lunch celebration at the RecPlex. She also reminded everyone MoDOT will be here Friday for a briefing on the general distress of funding and commented everyone is excited for the arrival of City Attorney Duston's baby this month.

ADJOURN

Mayor Presley asked for a motion to adjourn. Alderman Todd moved to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Bohinc. Voting aye: Simmons, Davis, Bohinc, Parnell, Todd and Booth. Nays: none. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.



Raeanne Presley
Mayor



Hillary Bargman
Deputy City Clerk

CITIZEN'S ACADEMY GRADUATES

Leland Kasbaum

Doris Adams

Alice Cushing

John Bartley